



# WOLSELEY WORLD

*The Journal of the Wolseley Register*

**ISSUE 226 • NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2023**



**CELEBRATING MORE THAN 125 YEARS OF WOLSELEY CARS**



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# Editor's Corner

Amy Egan, Editor [6547]

Hopefully this edition arrives around the usual time, but we did hold it back slightly in order to include a report on the NEC Classic Motor Show. As ever this was a great event, where we could show off what our club has to offer and also catch up with 'old' friends. But it is bittersweet, as the date also heralds the end of the show season.

This magazine includes details of numerous events for 2024 that we can look forward to, so I hope you are able to plan the year around many of these. We will start with our AGM in April, and each Region will be planning a special activity to mark the Register's 60th anniversary. And our National Rally is set for 18 August.

As ever, please do share what you and your Wolseley get up to with us all through the pages of *Wolseley World*. You won't hear from me again until the New Year, so I will end by wishing you a Merry Christmas!

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**Cover:** Three of the Wolseleys on our stand at the NEC Classic Car Show 2023. Read more on pages 18-19.

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*Deadline for next issue:  
5 January 2024*



## Chairman's Report

Graham Ryder, Chairman [4746]

The Classic Motor Show at the NEC has just finished, and although there were no club awards sponsored at all this year, the display and varied selection of cars on our stand were well-received by the general public. A full report is given on pages 18-19.

Arrangements for local events to celebrate our 60th anniversary year are being finalised and those already agreed are listed on the relevant Regional News pages. Booking arrangements and any entry forms should be available early in the New Year. I aim to attend all of these events in person, so look forward to meeting many of you during the year. Please see pages 21-23 for the latest on our National Rally plans.

There is no formal spring or autumn rally for 2024 as the Regional events include local tours, but ideas for the following year are being looked into. Any suggestions of places to visit or events to attend are always welcome and can be directed to any member of the committee or your Regional Rep.

### AGM NOTICE

The Annual General Meeting for 2024 will be held on Saturday afternoon, 6 April and a venue is being considered which we hope will be an attraction for members to visit in the morning. The venue will be announced as soon as possible and confirmed in the next issue of *Wolseley World*. The agenda will be published in that edition of *Wolseley World* (number 227) along with any nominations for office or matters for discussion under Any Other Business – both of which must therefore be submitted in writing to the Secretary by 1 January. A number of changes and amendments to the current Constitution are being prepared and will be on the agenda for the AGM.

Meanwhile, the Management Committee continues to investigate additional membership benefits that could assist in keeping our cars on the road. I hope those of you who will be attending Regional Christmas or New Year meals will enjoy rounding off the 2023 season in the company of fellow-members.

**VACANCY – SCRIBE:** We are seeking a volunteer to take the minutes at the Management Committee meetings, which are generally held in Stoke-on-Trent about five times a year. Please contact me to find out more (☎ 0121 445 1872).

# Website Library

Colin Briggs [5005] and Bob Langston [4581]

There are now over 1,400 scans in our Library of everything to do with Wolseley we can find, and another 70 will have been added by Christmas. Handbooks, workshop manuals, parts lists, electrical diagrams, brochures, period adverts, magazine articles, a full set of *Wolseley World* magazines and much more are there for members to use and enjoy.

Thankyou to those who have sent us their own scans to put in the online collection, these are much appreciated; if you have anything that isn't in the Library and want to scan it, please send it (**but only in a jpeg file** as that's the best for us to use, other formats not always being suitable for our system) to either ✉ colinzen@sky.com or ✉ sparesconsultant@thewolseleyregister.com.

## FBHVC Matters

*Taken from Issue 5, 2023*



The Wolseley Register is a member of the Federation of Historic Vehicle Clubs which exist to uphold the freedom to use historic vehicles on the road. In *Wolseley World* we summarise key articles from the *FBHVC News*. For further information on any of the matters summarised below, please consult **www.fbhvc.co.uk**

**London ULEZ:** The London ULEZ has come into force. Historic vehicles are exempt as elsewhere in England and Wales.

**Parking:** Bath became the first town to consult on car park charges being related to exhaust emission results, or for older vehicles to engine capacity. The Federation responded suggesting that historic vehicles pay the lowest rate. There is no national policy, so each occurrence will have to be considered as they arise.

**DVLA:** DVLA confirmed that their contract with the Post Office to provide a counter service is due to end in June 2024 and that at this stage no decision has been taken regarding any future provision.

**Fuels:** Esso's Synergy Supreme+ 99 fuel will now contain up to 5% ethanol in all parts of the country.

# Letters and Emails

## Wolseleys feature on YouTube videos

Amy Egan [6547]

**Y**ouTube videos are helping to attract more people to the classic car world, and as the Wolseley name is less well-known, we're always pleased when Wolseleys are featured.



Steph from [idriveaclassic](http://www.youtube.com/@idriveaclassic) ([www.youtube.com/@idriveaclassic](http://www.youtube.com/@idriveaclassic)) recently took a 1960 Wolseley 6/99 in Police livery out for a drive. Her channel has 50,000 subscribers, and the video has been watched 147,000 times in the first two weeks.



In the same month, Ed from Twin Cam ([www.youtube.com/@TwinCam](http://www.youtube.com/@TwinCam)) has reviewed an 1100 – although Steph featured it herself three years ago as well! The Twin-Cam channel has a similar number of subscribers to [idriveaclassic](http://www.youtube.com/@idriveaclassic), and in the first week this video has been viewed 74,000 times.

Some of Twin-Cam's other videos feature the Wolseley 1500, Super Six, Mini Hornet, 18/85 and Ten.

Steph told us she's keen to look at more cars from the 1920s to 1950s. If you would like to volunteer your Wolseley to be featured, please email her ([✉ idriveaclassic@gmail.com](mailto:idriveaclassic@gmail.com)) and mention that you are a Wolseley Register member.



## Searching for a special Hornet Special

Colin Labouchere

**M**y Mum drove a Wolseley Hornet Special (GY 3131) in the 1933 Monte Carlo Rally, and I was hoping to trace any history on it. They did in fact complete the course, but not within the specified time, and so were listed as non-finishers. They won their class in the Liege-Rome-Liege rally.



I enclose a photo, which I'm pretty sure was taken in Hyde Park. I'm now 84. In the unlikely event that the car still exists, having done the Monte, it is probably worth a lot more than I could fork up, but it would be lovely to know about it.

*That registration is not recorded on the Register's List of Recorded Vehicles, and it isn't known on the DVLA database either, so doesn't look like the car has survived. There is always the possibility that the car has been re-registered at some point, or that it has been exported.*

If you have any information, please make contact via the Editor:

✉ [editor@thewolseleyregister.com](mailto:editor@thewolseleyregister.com)

## Goodwood glamour

Dave Richardson [7690]

This photo shows my Wolseley 1500 Mk III at the Goodwood Revival last September, surrounded by the 'Glam Cab Girls' (see the *Carry on Cabby* film).



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## Nuffield Place open this December

Paul Cook [7643]

The home of the late William Morris, Lord Nuffield is usually closed over the winter months, but this is the first year the National Trust will be decorating the house for Christmas and opening it up to visitors on selected dates in December.

Details of the opening times are on the website ([www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/oxfordshire-buckinghamshire-berkshire/nuffield-place](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/oxfordshire-buckinghamshire-berkshire/nuffield-place)), or you can call ☎ 01491 641224. If you plan to visit in a classic car, please call ahead to make sure we can offer you a space to park directly outside the house. Lady Nuffield's Wolseley Eight 'BUD' resides in the garage.



# Out and About in the Wolseley World

## INTERESTED IN SETTING UP A NEW LOCAL GROUP?

If you'd like to start something to get Wolseley enthusiasts together in your area, Groups Liaison Officer Chris Arnold can help spread the word to local members. ☎ 01945 587004 ✉ [groupliaison@wolseleyregister.co.uk](mailto:groupliaison@wolseleyregister.co.uk)

## SAVE THE DATE FOR BEAULIEU AUTOJUMBLES:

**Spring:** 18-19 May 2024

**Autumn:** 14-15 September 2024

### EAST ANGLIA REGION

Chris Arnold [6441]

**F**ive of our cars put on a great display at the Seaford Show on 2 September. The following day, three of us had a go at the 'Haunted Lincolnshire Rally'. This well-organised event featured a road book with navigation notes and 100 miles of hard driving on some quite small roads in the Lincolnshire Wolds around Louth and Horncastle.



We had another good turnout at the Wings and Wheels show, with nine Wolseleys on display.

On 10 September, we were given a lovely location to display our seven cars at Thorney Festival – a new event for us although not very well-attended. A climb of the water tower enabled me to get this rather unusual view [see next page].





We squeezed in one more outing – a visit to the Scalextric Cafe just outside Spalding in October. We spent a very happy hour zooming around the track, before embarking on a road run in our life-sized cars.



After about 45 miles of Fenland roads, we ended up at the Four Crossroads pub for a carvery-style Sunday lunch.



### 60TH ANNIVERSARY PLANS:

We welcome any suggestions for how to mark the Register's 60th anniversary next year.

## **SOUTH EAST REGION** Stewart Payne [1612]

**I**n my last report, I was anticipating the small gathering of classic cars alongside steam rollers, traction engines, lorries and tractors at the annual Vintage Rally at the small West Sussex hamlet of Balls Cross.

This is a lovely event, held in beautiful countryside near the historic market town of Petworth. It is so low-key that it does not have a website, bookings to display vehicles are made by sending the organisers a stamped self-addressed envelope, and the collection for Macmillan cancer support is carried out by dropping money in a bucket on arrival. Yes, money! No cards.

The two-day event has an old-world feel to it, as befits the many and varied vintage vehicles on show. Steam engines trundle around between static displays to the sound of fairground organs and the rhythmic if rasping exhaust stroke of stationary engines.

My wife and I have visited in the past, but never as display entrants. This time I decided to camp and duly loaded up my 1956 Wolseley 4/44 with camping gear (taking me back to my youth when I camped all over Europe with it) and set up tent in a far corner of an adjoining field. My wife Mary joined me in our 1960 Series 2 Land Rover.



I had mentioned the event to South East Region members and hoped that a few would turn up on the Sunday. I was not disappointed, and we had five Wolseleys on show among about 50 classic cars – not a bad performance. The oldest among the Wolseley fraternity (car, not driver!) was Nelson Ferreira in his 1935 New 14. John Blackbourn journeyed up from Kent in his 1954 4/44 and we were pleased to be joined by Bryan and Jane Hare in their 1968 Hornet.

Bryan said: “We thought it would be good to support and mingle with other Wolseley owners. Given the hot weather we were grateful that we had a pre-prepared a cold box picnic and cold drinks, as on-site catering was somewhat

sparse. We parked with other Register members, introduced ourselves and talked 'Wolseley'.

A few rows in front, and unknown to us, was a splendid dark green 6/110. Registered in February 1968, this would make it one of the very last before the model ceased production. Its owner was local, but not a Register member. He was not with his car when I dropped by for a chat, but his daughter said it was his "pride and joy" and he had undertaken a lot of restoration by himself. The sun shone throughout the day, and John and Nelson took shelter in the back seat of the New 14. The rally was well attended, and we were pleased to have the opportunity to fly the flag for Wolseley, the only marque to have five cars on display.

Elsewhere, SE member Roland Watson reports that he has had good, and bad times, with his Wolseley cars. His 6/80 is to feature in a forthcoming period drama set in 1955. This involved him taking it into central London, leaving home at 5am to arrive in time for a long day of filming. All went well with the car.



As for the film, Roly is sworn to secrecy about who stars in it and what it is about until nearer its release date. His car is photographed alongside a London taxi of the same period.

However, Roly continues to have problems with his 1938 16/65, which has had to be recovered for a third time. "Why did I take a car on the road with so many known problems and many others coming to light!", he laments. He is discovering that in the past, "everything on this car has been bodged". He is now stripping the engine to check all oilways for blockages.

The SE committee is meeting in November for its AGM and to consider a Christmas meal venue and I will update SE members by email.



### 60TH ANNIVERSARY PLANS:

More in my next report following discussion at the AGM.

## NORTH WEST REGION

Mike Stanley [1234]

Back in September, Vic and Thelma Waddilove displayed their 1500 at the 'Wings and Wheels' event at the Avro Heritage Museum near Stockport. The museum tells the history of the Avro Aircraft Company from the beginning.



The event was very well attended by a variety of classic cars (but no other Wolseleys), and several commercial vehicles. The day turned out to be one of the hottest days of the year, and visitors were sheltering from the sun under the wings of the Vulcan bomber which was on display. As a bonus, an Avro Anson and a Avro Lancaster did three circuits of the event on their way to the Southport Air Show.



At the time of writing, we seem to have cleared the latest storm that has caused so much damage across the UK without suffering too badly here in the NW. I hope that all our members, and their families and Wolseleys have survived without any serious problems.



Temperatures have dropped quite noticeably and coupled with the leaves having been blown off the trees rather rapidly this year it seems to have been a rather abrupt autumn. I've not been able to enjoy the splendid usual colours through our Trough of Bowland this year and my attention is now taken with the winter laying-up of my cars. They will be fully cleaned and serviced, including appropriate antifreeze

checked, but remaining accessible for the jobs I need to complete.

They will, of course, be regularly 'looked at' and checked throughout the winter.

Probably by the time you read this we will have had our regional Christmas meal. Although we have needed to find a fresh venue this year (and unfortunately had to slightly limit numbers, but we may be able to accommodate everyone nearer the date) we look forward to another successful get-together.

On behalf of our NW members I pass on our best wishes to all our fellow members. May you have a marvellous Christmas-time, and we look forward to seeing you during the coming year. As always, **HAPPY WOLSELEYING!**

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## **EAST MIDLANDS REGION**

Graham Ryder [4746] with Nev Holmes [6290]



### **60TH ANNIVERSARY PLANS:**

**T**he East Midlands will mark the Register's 60th anniversary with a stand at the Earls Barton Transport Show. This free-to-enter event will be held at Whites Nurseries, Earls Barton, Northampton (NN6 0EP), over the Bank Holiday weekend of Saturday 24 to Monday 26 August 2024. There will be the usual array of vehicles, trade and craft stands, beer tent etc.

Free camping space is available all weekend. Entry forms available from Graham Ryder (✉ [chairman@thewolseleyregister.com](mailto:chairman@thewolseleyregister.com) / ☎ 0121 445 1872). Completed forms should be returned to him at 363 Old Birmingham Road, Lickey, Rednal, near Birmingham B45 8EU and will be submitted en bloc by the end of June 2024 at the latest.

Passes will be forwarded by Graham, and the cost of postage will be covered by the 60th anniversary events fund. If you have already applied direct, please let us know so we can ask the organisers to include you in our booking.



## MIDLANDS REGION Graham Ryder [4746]

**M**idlands monthly meetings continue to be held north and south of Birmingham on the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be the Christmas Lunch at 1pm on Saturday, 9 December at The Royal Oak, Barley Mow Lane, Catshill, Bromsgrove, Worcs B61 0LU. Names and menu choices were collected in November.

The next meeting at The Parson and Clerk Toby Carvery, 50 Chester Road North, Streetly, Sutton Coldfield B73 6SP will be on Thursday 11 January. All Midlands members are welcome to attend either location. Just let us know in advance so that enough table space can be booked.



To round off the 2023 season, several Register members attended the Footman James Coffee and Chrome meet on 15 October at The Impney Estate, Droitwich. It was a crisp bright morning, so the free bacon butties for driver and passenger were much appreciated! Dates and venues for these free events in 2024 will be publicised as soon as announced.



The following weekend, Midlands members supported the Bonded Warehouse Open Weekend in Stourbridge. This two-day event is always a great opportunity to meet up with other classic car owners and the general public.



### 60TH ANNIVERSARY PLANS:

We are planning a Road Run in the Ludlow area on the weekend of 7-8 September 2024. A hotel base is currently being researched. More details will be given in the next issue of *Wolseley World*.

Details of 2024 events are being added to the Midlands Programme of Events page of the Register website ([www.wolseleyregister.co.uk/midlands-region-programme-of-events](http://www.wolseleyregister.co.uk/midlands-region-programme-of-events)) as soon as these are confirmed. Where available, links to further details and downloadable application forms are given. Ring Jenny and Graham Ryder (☎ 0121 445 1872) for more information and/or forms by post.

The A47 AutoJumble dates and the Stoke Prior Steam Rally weekend are already listed for 2024.

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## SCOTTISH GROUP Michael Seaward [7273]

**S**unday 17 September saw a display of six Wolseleys at the Gartcosh Classic Car Show, North Lanarkshire, Scotland. It was grey and overcast for the morning... and then the rain started. Such a shame, as the turnout of over 120 varied cars, motorbikes and light commercials was excellent.

The Wolseleys were all post-War; a 4/44, two MkI 1500s, two 6/99s and an 18/85.

Other Wolseley Register members' cars included a Saab convertible and a Honda Insight [both just visible behind the Farina cars] and an Austin 1800 [not pictured].

We are already planning to have a Register stand at four events in 2024, and we hope to have the support of many members – details will be confirmed through the Wings newsletter and *Wolseley World*.



### 60TH ANNIVERSARY PLANS:

We will be having a special gathering at the Scottish Transport Extravaganza at Glamis on the weekend of 13-14 July 2024. More details to be shared soon.

## NORTH EAST REGION

Peter Seaward [237]

The restart of the monthly lunchtime meetings got off to a great start in September with 11 attendees and two Wolseleys in the car park – the pre-War nine of Paul Champney and Chris Hopkins from Otley, and the 1500 of the Sargeants from Pickering.

In October the number was slightly down but we were pleased to see Graham and Susan Whitaker all the way from North Lincolnshire. On both occasions it was good to have Geoff and Betty Craggs present along with his car and new electric hoist for his mobility scooter and regular supporters Peter and Pauline Cope from Cheshire.

November will be the last of the meetings for 2023 and will restart on Tuesday 6 February 2024 at 12.30 at the Bridge Hotel, Walshford near Wetherby. Please let me know if you are able to attend or if you require directions or any further information – we look forward to meeting you there.

The next most important date for us will be Sunday 14 January and our ***New Year Lunch*** at the Bridge Hotel. Details and booking forms are available from me on request. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

It is still early for event details for 2024, but when you get your new diaries please make a note of the following:

- **Sun 30 June:** Northallerton Vintage and Prewar Car Show. Space for 250-300 cars (up to 1949) at this free event on the High Street. To register, please email your vehicle details to ✉ [prewar.carshow@btinternet.com](mailto:prewar.carshow@btinternet.com)
- **27-28 July:** Regional annual rally in York and Ripon – further details to follow
- **3-4 August:** Morris Vehicles Association rally at Thoresby
- **17-18 August:** Wolseley Register National Rally at The Shuttleworth Collection near Biggleswade.

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## SOUTH WEST REGION

Geoff Bennett [923]

Last time we announced that the Classic Restoration and Spares Market was coming to the Bath and West Showground, Shepton Mallet on 15 November 2023. Sadly the event was subsequently cancelled but we hope that Shepton Mallet has the chance to host a similar event in the future.